

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONROV 01088 131101Z

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-11 AID-05 OMB-01 /064 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9006

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ACCRA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONROVIA 1088

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AT, PFOR, LI, NI

SUBJECT: LIBERIA AND NIGERIA EXCHANGE HARSH WORDS OVER ANGOLA

1. GOL OWNED RADIO STATION ANNOUNCED LATE YESTERDAY THAT FOREIGN MINISTER DENNIS HAD TAKEN EXCEPTION TO PUBLIC STATEMENT BY NIGERIAN HEAD OF STATE WHICH SHARPLY CRTICIZED LIBERIA FOR NOT RPT NOT RECOGNIZING MPLA. DENNIS SAID GOL QTE STARTLINGLY SURPRISED UNQTE AT MURTALA STATEMENT AND REMINDED MURTALA THAT LIBERIA HAD NOT RECOGNIZED BIAFRA DURING NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR. SAID LIBERIA VIEWED MPLA IN SAME LIGHT BIAFRANS.

2. I HAVE NOT SEEN TEXT EITHER STATEMENT BUT HAD SHORT TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH DENNIS THIS MORNING. HE SAID FMG HAD NOT RPT NOT DONE GOL COURTESY OF ADVISING IT OF STATEMENT PRIOR TO PUBLICATION. GOL LEARNED ABOUT IT THROUGH AFP NEWS ITEM. DENNIS REMARKED TO ME THAT QTE THEY WILL HAVE TO LEARN THAT WE KNOW HOW TO MAKE UP OUR OWN MINDS UNQTE.

3. I HOPE GET FULL TEXT DENNIS STATEMENT LATER TODAY. ALSO, DEPENDING ON DENNIS' SCHEDULE, I MAY BE SEEING HIM LATE THIS AFTERNOON. IF I DO, I WILL TRY TO DRAW HIM OUTON THIS AND VISIT OF GHANAIAAN FOREIGN MINISTER FELLI WHICH ENDED THIS MORNING.

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PAGE 02 MONROV 01088 131101Z

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